

**Town of Concord
Board of Assessors Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2018**

Present: Jim Sommer, Chair, Christian Fisher and Tom Matthews
Staff: Lane Partridge, Town Assessor
Others: June Rzepczynski, Finance Comm. Liaison and Tom McKean, Select Board Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

January 9, 2018 – Regular Session

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Fisher, it was **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the Regular Session meeting of January 9, 2018.

January 9, 2018 – Executive Session

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Matthews, seconded by Mr. Fisher, it was **VOTED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the Executive Session meeting of January 9, 2018.

FY2018 ABATEMENT APPLICATION

785 Main St.

Mr. Partridge explained that this is a commercial building and the application was filed by Mark Witkin as a place holder. He files for numerous properties around the area and states no reason for the abatement request on the application. He puts the minimum information on the application. The Board stated lack of information on the request was the reason for their decision.

On a **MOTION** made by Mr. Fisher, seconded by Mr. Matthews, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED** to **DENY** the request for abatement as recommended by staff.

TOWN ASSESSOR

Mr. Partridge stated that he would like to set up an appointment to visit 349 Harrington Avenue and would like a Board member to go with him when he visits the property. Mr. Matthews said he will visit the property with Mr. Partridge. Mr. Sommers stated he will be meeting with the homeowner separately to discuss her concerns with her property.

Mr. Partridge discussed the spreadsheet he has developed in regards to the Senior Tax Exemption. It was stated that if the applicant is eligible to receive a statutory exemption along with the Senior Tax Exemption the amount of the statutory exemption should be taken off the tax bill first before the Senior Tax Exemption amount. The sum total of all your exemptions cannot put your tax bill at under 50% of the total. It was suggested that the Board drafts a policy regarding this issue. Mr. Partridge will draft something for the Board to review.

Mr. Partridge reported that as of this date we have received 43 applications for abatement for FY2018. He will try to present 10 per meeting to the Board for discussion.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 15, 2018

Ms. Rzepczynski informed the Board of a Public Hearing the Finance Committee is holding on Thursday February 15, 2018 at the Harvey Wheeler Community Center addressing Fiscal Sustainability for families and businesses in Concord. She stated that salaries and benefits make up the largest part of the budget for spending. The town maintains a high level of services for its' residents and the goal is to gauge how people are feeling about the level of spending versus the level of services. Is spending outstripping the cost of living in Concord? The Board thanked her for her input and wished her well with the hearing.

Mr. McKean stated that in regards to fiscal sustainability new growth seems to be slowing in Town and there is a thought that 30% of households in town are household burdened.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be scheduled for February 15, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. The Board tentatively set the dates of March 6, 15 and 29 for future Board Meetings. They may not use all of those dates but they would like Board Members to reserve them just in case.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:45 P.M., on a **MOTION** made by Mr. Fisher and seconded by Mr. Matthews, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED by Roll Call Vote:**

Mr. Fisher – Aye

Mr. Matthews – Aye

Mr. Sommer - Aye

to enter into executive session in compliance with the Open Meeting Law's purpose #7 ("To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special or federal grant-in-aid requirements") and for the purpose of considering CPA Exemption Applications, Statutory Exemption Applications, discuss ATB cases and to adjourn thereafter.

The Board Entered the Executive Session

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Dee
Sr. Administrative Assistant